Please amend page 10, line 1 as follows:

## Claims What is claimed is:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1. (Original) A process for the production of iohexol comprising alkylating 5(acetamido)-N,N'-bis(2,3-dihydroxypropyl)-2,4,6-triiodoisophtalamide with a 2,3dihydroxypropylating agent in the presence of a base and of a solvent which solvent
  comprises a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-monoalkylether of a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkylene-glycol.
- 2. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein said glycol is 1-methoxy-2-propanol.
- 3. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 or 2 further comprising one or more co-solvents.
- 4. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 3 wherein said co-solvents comprise C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkanols, preferably methanol, and/or water.
- 5. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 3 or 4 wherein said solvent comprises 1-methoxy-2-propanol and 0-40 volume% of methanol.
- 6. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 3 or 4 wherein said solvent comprises 1-methoxy-2-propanol and 0-20 volume% of water.
- 7. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claims 1 to 6 claim 1 wherein said solvent is used in an amount of 0.5 to 5 ml, more preferred 0.7 to 3 ml and most preferred 0.9 to 1.0 ml per gram 5-Acetamide.

- 8. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in any of the previous claims claim 1 further comprising purifying the crude iohexol obtained from the N-alkylation reaction using a solvent comprising a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-monoalkylether of a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyleneglycol.
- (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 8 where wherein the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>monoalkylether of a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkylene-glycol is the same glycol as used in the Nalkylation process.
- 10. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claims 8 and 9 claim 8 wherein in said purification the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-monoalkylether of a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkylene-glycol is 1-methoxy-2-propanol.
- 11. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claims 8 to 10 claim 8 wherein in said purification the solvent further comprises one or more co-solvents.
- 12. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 11 wherein said co-solvent comprises C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkanols and preferably methanol.
- 13. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claims 9 to 12 claim 9 wherein the amount of said solvent is adjusted to 1.5 to 8 ml of the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-monoalkylether of a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkylene-glycol/g iohexol, to 0-1 ml C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkanol/g iohexol, and to 0.001-0.3 ml water/g iohexol.
- 14. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claims 8 to 13 claim 8 where wherein the purification is performed by crystallising the iohexol from said solvent and then separating the crystals from said solvent.

- 15. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claims 8 to 14 claim 8 wherein the salt content in the reaction mixture of the alkylation reaction is reduced prior to the purification step.
- 16. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claims 8 to 15 claim 8 wherein the water content in the reaction mixture of the alkylation reaction is reduced prior to the crystallisation step preferably by azeotropic distillation.
- 17. (Currently amended) A method process as claimed in claims 8 to 16 claim 8 where wherein the crystalline iohexol is washed with isopropanol and dried.